

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED • BY • CONGRESS • MAY • 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

202-566-1066

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

15 December 1988

AM 10:00 CONVENE, 708 Jackson Place, N. W., Washington, D. C.

I. ADMINISTRATION

- A. Approval of 27 October minutes.
- B. Date of next meeting: 12 January 1989 (Thursday)
- C. Schedule of 1989 CFA meetings.
- D. CFA lighting study; report.
- E. Confirmation of approval of November appendices.
- F. Proposed construction of 7 houses in Shipstead-Luce area at Woodland, Rock Creek and Normanstone drives; report and discussion.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

- A. Department of Defense, The Pentagon
CFA 15/DEC/88-1, Child Care Center. Preliminary design. (Previous: 28 July 1988-5.)
- B. Smithsonian Institution
CFA 15/DEC/88-2, National Portrait Gallery, 8th and F Streets, N. W. Lighting of South Portico.
- C. General Services Administration, National Capital Region
CFA 15/DEC/88-3, Southeast Federal Center, (Navy Yard), Building 213, 1st and M Streets, S. E. Additional facade studies, renovation. (Previous: 27 October 1988-5.)

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS, continued 15 December 1988

D. Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation

CFA 15/DEC/88-4, Zuckerman/Sigal project, 6th Street and Indiana Avenue, N. W. Brick sample.
(Previous: 17 March 1988-3, 22 October 1987-4.)

E. Department of the Treasury, U. S. Mint

CFA 15/DEC/88-6, Mary Lasker Medal. Designs.

F. District of Columbia Government, Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

1. Shipstead-Luce Act

- a. S.L. 89-27, 6830 Oregon Avenue, N. W. Design for new single family residence. Concept.
- b. S.L. 89-18, 8175 E. Beach Drive, N. W. Design for new single family residence. Concept.
- e. Appendix I.

2. Georgetown Act

- a. O.G. 89-28, 1810-12 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Revised concept design for new mixed-use building. (Previous: O.G. 88-108.)
- b. Appendix II.

G. District of Columbia Government, Department of Public Works

CFA 15/DEC/88-5, Whitehurst Freeway. Alterations.

Discussions not on the printed agenda:

Old Georgetown Act: p. 3 of minutes
Competition for Eisenhower coin: p. 7 of minutes
Relationship between the CFA and the local ANC's: p. 10

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Appendix I

SHIPSTEAD-LUCE SUBMISSIONS

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
S.L. 89-19	2012 Pierce Mill Road, N.W. Alan J. Morrissey Residence	Window replacement - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for replacement of sliding glass doors with wood casement windows. Work will have minimal impact on Rock Creek Park. Recommend painting white all wood and metal work, including existing railings and entrance doorway. Suggest replacing first floor picture window with casements for uniform facade appearance.

S.L. 89-20	3013 Oregon Knolls Drive, N.W. Oregon Knolls Ltd. Partnership Residence	Retaining wall - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for construction of existing retaining wall of railroad ties reinforced by metal rods. Strongly urge submission of future work under appropriate review process prior to actual construction or purchase of materials.

S.L. 89-21	3015 Oregon Knolls Drive, N.W. Oregon Knolls Ltd. Partnership Residence	Retaining wall - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for construction of existing retaining wall of railroad ties reinforced by metal rods. Strongly urge submission of future work under appropriate review process prior to actual construction or purchase of materials.

S.L. 89-22	3017 Oregon Knolls Drive, N.W. Oregon Knolls Ltd. Partnership Residence	Retaining wall - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for construction of existing retaining wall of railroad ties reinforced by metal rods. Strongly urge submission of future work under appropriate review process prior to actual construction or purchase of materials.

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Appendix I

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
S.L. 89-23	3019 Oregon Knolls Drive, N.W. Oregon Knolls Ltd. Partnership Residence	Retaining wall - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for construction of existing retaining wall of railroad ties reinforced by metal rods. Strongly urge submission of future work under appropriate review process prior to actual construction or purchase of materials.

S.L. 89-24	3015 Oregon Knolls Drive, N.W. Oregon Knolls Ltd. Partnership Residence	Modification to building - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for modifications to approved design and permit (#B323544) for house now under construction as shown in working drawings received and dated 30 November 1988. (See S.L. 87-46).

S.L. 89-25	550 5th Street, N.W. Washington Properties, Inc. Commercial	New building - conceptual
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ACTION: Returned without Action; case was withdrawn by written request of the applicant.

S.L. 89-26	2323 Porter Street, N.W. Larry Li Residences	New buildings - conceptual
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ACTION: Returned without Action; case was withdrawn by written request of the applicant.

S.L. 89-16	313 Second Street, N.E. St Joseph's Catholic Church	Air conditioning units - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for installation of proposed air conditioning units in accordance with changes to location and installation agreed to by applicant as shown in supplemental drawings.

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Appendix II

OLD GEORGETOWN SUBMISSIONS

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 88-253	1048 29th Street, N.W. National Development Mid-Atlantic Office building	Alterations (revised design) - conceptual

ACTION: No objection to revised concept for alterations to existing industrial building as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 28 November 1988. Submit working drawings for CFA review when ready.

O.G. 89-35	3419 Prospect Street, N.W. Lance Friedsam Residence	Addition and alterations - conceptual
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ACTION: No objection to concept design for proposed alteration of and addition to this semidetached residence as shown in drawings received and dated 16 November 1988. Submit final working drawings for review prior to issuance of permit.

O.G. 89-38	3053 P Street, N.W. J.J. Stout Residence	Enclosure of 2nd story terrace - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed enclosure of a second story rear wing terrace as shown in drawings received and dated 16 November 1988.

O.G. 89-31	1671 35th Street, N.W. Michel Parlier Residence	New deck and second story addition - conceptual
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ACTION: No objection to concept design for side yard deck and addition of second floor to existing one story rear wing. Adjacent neighbors have no objection. Submit working drawings for review by CFA prior to issuance of permit.

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<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 88-246	1740 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Domenico Stalteri Beauty salon	Garage (revised design) - permit

ACTION: Recommend against issuance of permit for proposed below grade garage and ramp which are out of character with historic district. Note: applicant has indicated his intention to build a three-story addition on top of the proposed garage structure at some time in the future. Such a proposal may be considered inappropriate.

O.G. 89-37	2725 N Street, N.W. Richard Green Residence	Alteration of cornice - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for removal of existing metal cornice, repair of brick and replacement of roof with material compatible with adjacent properties.

O.G. 89-30	3223 K Street, N.W. Oliver T. Carr River Club Restaurant	Glass canopy - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed glass canopy as shown in drawings received and dated 16 November 1988.

O.G. 89-24	1242 29th Street, N.W. Sokness & Shriver Residence	Replacement of windows - permit
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ACTION: Recommend against issuance of permit for proposed replacement of windows as inappropriate to the architectural and historical integrity of the existing structure and character of the historic district. Restudy for compatible window unit replacement utilizing double-hung wood sash having fixed muntins.

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<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 89-21	1618 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Kamal Jahanbin Sweet Stop Bakery	Awning (existing) - permit

ACTION: Recommend against issuance of permit for existing box awning which is not appropriate to historic district. Recommend traditional shed-type awning with lettering confined to valance.

O.G. 89-33	3124-28 M Street, N.W. Jean Paul Ansellam Bistro Francais restaurant	Awnings - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for resurfacing existing awnings and lowering framework of awning at 3128 M Street to match height of awning at 3124.

O.G. 89-25	3116 M Street, N.W. Jean Paul Ansellam Manhattan's Bar & Grill	Signs (existing) - permit
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ACTION: Recommend against issuance of permit. Panel sign between bay windows is inappropriate and should be removed. There is no objection to letters mounted individually on existing iron railing as shown.

O.G. 89-34	3160 O Street, N.W. Joseph Levin Modern Language Book Store	Signs - permit
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ACTION: Recommend against issuance of permit for proposed signs. The side wall sign is on a party line and violates the District building code. The street front sign over the entrance should be restudied with the recommendation that a sign at this location be more attenuated (longer and thinner) than the design submitted.

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<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 89-39	1808 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Germar Properties Collins Memorial Hospital for Animals	Alley fencing - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed fence which is intended to match an existing fence on the property as agreed to by the applicant.

O.G. 89-22	1068 Thomas Jefferson Street, N.W. Kyi Hwan Han Wrinkle Free Dry Cleaners	Awnings (revised design) - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for single awning over entrance only, with lettering limited to valance.

O.G. 89-41	2833 M Street, N.W. Madison National Bank	Temporary banner - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed temporary banner which should be hung in opening adjacent to column entrance. Banner must be removed after one month.

O.G. 89-11	1265 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Georgetown Jewelry	Awning - permit
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ACTION: Recommend against issuance of permit for recovering existing awning which was erected without permit. Recommend new awning submission comply with design and location beneath cornice of neighboring awning which shares building facade.

O.G. 89-26	1229 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Esprit clothiers	Awnings - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed awnings as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 1 December 1988.

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Appendix II

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 89-17	2801 M Street, N.W. 2801 M Street Joint Venture Office/Retail	Enclosure of existing parking area with trellis and deck - conceptual

ACTION: Submission withdrawn by request of applicant. Request new submission when ready.

O.G. 89-20	3133 K Street, N.W. DHW & JJB, Inc. Restaurant	New building - permit
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ACTION: Submission and application have been withdrawn at request of applicant. Request new submission when ready.

O.G. 89-29	3279 M Street, N.W. Eton Condominium Association Restaurant	Ventilation chimney - revised design - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for installation of ventilation system chimney as proposed in supplemental drawings received and dated 7 December 1988.

O.G. 88-234	3206 Grace Street, N.W. Dieter G. Schorner Cafe - Patisserie Didier	Sign - revised - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed sign located on panel over door as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 8 December 1988.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

CAROLYN J. DEAVER

NEIL H. PORTERFIELD

ROY M. GOODMAN

PASCAL REGAN

FREDERICK E. HART

DIANE WOLF

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

15 December 1988

The meeting was convened at 10:25 a.m. in the Commission of Fine Arts offices at 708 Jackson Place, N. W., Washington, D. C., after a tour of project sites.

Members present: Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman
Hon. Carolyn Deaver
Hon. Roy M. Goodman
Hon. Diane Wolf

Staff present: Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary
Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson
Mrs. Sue Kohler
Mr. Jose Martinez-Canino

National Capital
Planning Commission
staff present: Mr. Patrick Tribe

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Minutes of the 27 October meeting: approved, with amendments to certain pages of the transcript submitted by Miss Wolf and approved.

B. Date of next meeting: 12 January 1989 (Thursday), approved.

C. Schedule of 1989 CFA meetings: The Assistant Secretary gave the members a tentative schedule, to be used as a working schedule until the absent members could be contacted.

D. CFA lighting study; report. The Assistant Secretary stated for the record that there had been a meeting at the Capitol on 7 November with representatives of several agencies interested in coordinating lighting efforts in the city. He noted that the Chairman and Miss Wolf had attended and that he had also been present. Miss Wolf said the Architect of the Capitol's office had been very helpful and had arranged for a mock-up of lighting at Pennsylvania Avenue and Second Street, N. W. on the evening of 11

January. She asked the Chairman if the group could view the mock-up from his National Gallery office. He said he thought that would be an ideal place, and he hoped that most of the Commission members could attend, since it would be held the night before the January meeting. The Assistant Secretary then said he had received the colored diagrams of existing lighting conditions that NCPC had been asked to prepare at the November lighting meeting, and he would give each member copies. It was also agreed that letters should be written to the director of NCPC and the Architect of the Capitol, thanking them for their aid in this project, and that copies of the diagrams should be sent to all participating agencies. Relevant to this discussion, Mr. Myer noted that new lighting for the portico of the Portrait Gallery was on the agenda, and that the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation would be coming to the Commission soon with a lighting scheme for their building on 17th Street.

E. Confirmation of approval of November appendices. Mr. Myer recalled that the appendices had been circulated to the members; they had been approved by all except Miss Wolf. Miss Wolf said her objections had not been to any specific project, but to the fact that the Commission had not met as a group to study them, and as she interpreted the rules, she thought this was necessary. Mr. Myer then said the appendices would stand approved, by a 6 to 1 vote.

F. Proposed construction of seven houses in Shipstead-Luce area at Woodland, Rock Creek and Normanstone Drives; report and discussion. The Secretary said a neighbor had alerted the Commission to the demolition of a house on this site and to the large amount of construction that began to appear. When he investigated he found that there was a plan for seven houses on a lot that formerly had one, and that the D. C. government had not referred the plans to the Commission through the Shipstead-Luce process, as they should have done. District officials told him the permit was issued in error, and he then asked that a proper submission be made through the usual review process. He said nothing further was heard from the D. C. government and so he had contacted the Justice Department about the possibility of legal action. The opinion of the Justice Department official was that the Commission would be on firm ground to take such action, lacking District compliance with its request.

Mr. Myer noted that the developer was present and that the staff had had conversations with several of the neighbors, who were more concerned that the review process had not been followed than with the design of the houses. The Secretary added that there was also a question about the number of houses that were being built on the site; the Chairman said that could be answered only after the Commission had been given the opportunity to see the plans.

It was emphasized that, in this case, the problem was with the District government, not with the developer (who was in attendance, but did not speak).

Discussion of Old Georgetown Act (not on the agenda): Miss Wolf asked to comment on some printed matter from the Citizens Association of Georgetown, sent to the members by the Secretary, in which the staff was quoted as saying that if Georgetown residents no longer desired their protection, they would be happy to cede jurisdiction to the D. C. Historic Preservation Review Board. (The ANC had voted in the recent past to place language in the Ward 2 master plan allowing the local board to overturn the Commission of Fine Arts.) Miss Wolf said there was no way the Commission could cede jurisdiction unless the law was changed, and the members would have to decide whether that should be requested of Congress. The Secretary said he fully understood that, and the point he was making was that it was possible to change the law if the citizens were unhappy with it. He assured Miss Wolf that the Commission was continuing to comply with the law, although he said there were others who were not. The Chairman agreed with the Secretary's assessment of the situation.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. Department of Defense, the Pentagon

CFA 15/DEC/88-1, Child Care Center. Preliminary design.
(Previous: 28 July 1988-5.) The Assistant Secretary recalled the Commission's approval of the site for this project, and said that a competition for the design had been held and a winner chosen. He introduced Barbara Pope from DOD to make the presentation. Ms. Pope showed drawings for the center, and in response to a question from the Chairman said she could not divulge the name of the winner yet because the design had been submitted to Congress and not yet returned. She said the entries received were all from reliable day care people, but this was by far the best design. She noted that the Pentagon ran 640 day care centers worldwide and had stringent requirements.

Ms. Pope said the center could not be seen from the Pentagon, from either the river or the mall entrances. She pointed out the main entrance, service and delivery areas, and the parking space for parents dropping off children; she noted that there would be a seasonal display in a glazed corner tower that would appeal not only to the children but to the people from the Pentagon who passed by.

Ms. Pope referred Miss Wolf's question about three small roof structures to architect Arnold Prima, the DOD coordinator on this project. Mr. Prima said their purpose was to cover air conditioning equipment. He described the material as brick, with a horizontal banding in the window area; the color would be sand

beige, to harmonize with the color of the Pentagon. The roof would be standing seam metal, painted green. The Chairman was concerned about the deep green roof color shown on the drawing and the shape of the roof structures, thinking that these elements gave the building an agrarian, barn-like quality. He thought the roof structures might be made larger, so that they would really count in the design. Mr. Prima said several colors had been considered, and the green preferred would be more like a copper patina, not the darker shade shown in the drawings. The Chairman thought this would be better, and he said that, in any case, color and brick samples would have to be seen later. Miss Wolf was concerned about the appearance of the canopies, thinking that they should be placed over all windows, not just some of them. The Chairman was not sure this regularity was what the building needed. Mr. Prima said they had been placed primarily over the doors and were there for weather protection. He noted that costs had to be very carefully considered if any changes were made in the accepted design. The Chairman said he thought the building was just marginal, and one thing he would request was that Mr. Porterfield review the landscaping plan in detail; he thought the right planting would be a big help to the building and to the Pentagon setting in general. Mr. Prima agreed and said they would have the help of the excellent landscaping staff at the Pentagon. The preliminary design was approved, with details, materials and landscaping to be reviewed later. Exhibit A

B. Smithsonian Institution

CFA 15/DEC/88-2, National Portrait Gallery, 8th & F Streets, N. W. Lighting of south portico. Staff member Jeffrey Carson said this submission was for upgrading the lighting of the National Portrait Gallery, primarily the south portico; he said the proposal was to change the existing light fixtures to a combination of metal halide and fluorescent, to give a soft, white light. He said the director was concerned that the light not be so intense that it would wash out the architectural features.

Philip Reiss, representing the Smithsonian, was introduced to discuss the project. He said the basic intent was to provide a better view into the portico facade, and he noted that the lamps would be provided with filters so that the intensity could be controlled. He said the fluorescent lamps would be used in the entranceway, near the steps. He added that they hoped to be able to put new lamps on two existing lightpoles across the street, which belonged to the District. In answer to the Chairman's question, he said the designer of the lighting system was Ray Grenald. The members thought a mock-up should be seen; the Chairman said the Commission would be in the area on the evening of 11 January to inspect lighting and would be happy to take a look at that time. He thought that whatever lighting was installed should harmonize with that on the Archives portico. Mr. Reiss was concerned that the late date for the mock-up would make it

impossible for them to have the approved lighting in place for the Inauural events. The members agreed that he could go ahead and set up the lights and use them through the Inaugural; if they did not approve them after seeing the mock-up, modifications could be made later. Exhibit B

C. General Services Administration, National Capital Region
CFA 15/DEC/88-3, Southeast Federal Center, (Navy Yard),
Building #213, 1st & M Streets, S. E. Additional facade studies,
renovation. (Previous: 27 October 1988-5.) The Assistant Secretary recalled that the members had seen the site and the existing building before the October meeting and had then reviewed the design. He introduced Judith Friedman from GSA to present a slightly revised design, responding to the Commission's October recommendations. Ms. Freidman said the occupant of the building would be the National Photographic Interpretation Center, and the purpose of the new facade was both to make the building more attractive and provide radio frequency shielding. She introduced architect Earl Kemp from Ellerbe/Becket to discuss the revisions. Mr. Kemp recalled the Commission's concern about the use of a mansard roof to hide mechanical equipment; he showed new drawings in which the mansard had been eliminated and replaced with a slight return to the parapet, producing a rather heavy horizontal effect at the top edge. He also pointed out that although any real articulation of the facade was precluded by the shielding function, they had added more emphasis to the top floor sill line and pulled the windows back somewhat to relieve the flatness. He said the materials would harmonize with those previously approved for Navy Yard improvements - red and buff brick, and light-colored cast stone. The metal skin would be a champagne color, as previously seen by the Commission.

The Chairman, who had not been present at the October meeting, asked to see the old drawings showing the mansard roof. He said he preferred this to the new design, feeling that it had a softening effect and was in the vocabulary of the Federal Triangle and other Washington buildings. Senator Goodman said he tended to agree with the Chairman's view. The Chairman questioned the red and white striping effect of the brick on the entrance element as being rather fussy and not carried out elsewhere on the building. Mr. Kemp said they thought it helped tie the building massing into the character of the surrounding fence; the Chairman replied that if the architects felt strongly about it he would go along as it was not a major element and had been approved at the October meeting. Mr. Kemp asked what the decision was on the roof

treatment; the members agreed that the mansard looked better than the new design and gave it their approval. The new window treatment and the materials were also approved. (Senator Goodman withdrew from the meeting at this point.) Exhibit C

D. Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation

CFA 15/DEC/88-4, Zuckerman/Sigal project, 6th Street & Indiana Avenue, N. W. Brick sample. (Previous: 17 March 1988-3, 22 October 1987-4.) Mr. Carson recalled that the Commission had approved the design of this building, and at least several of the members had had a chance to see the brick sample panel that had been erected on the site. He introduced architect George Hartman who explained that the sample panel was a composite of the red brick to be used on the apartment building section of the project, the limestone for the base, the granite plinth, and the precast for the office building section that will turn onto Pennsylvania Avenue. There would also be a grey brick to make the shift between the height of the building and the penthouse structure.

The Chairman recalled the discussion the Commission had had about the use of red brick in this area, and Mr. Hartman's observation that there was actually a great deal of it just off the Avenue to the north, and that the warmth of red brick was appropriate to the residential part of the building, to which it was restricted. The discussion had then turned to the appropriate shade of red, and the Chairman said he was very pleased with the light, rosy color shown on the mockup which blended well with the beige stone. Miss Wolf had originally been opposed to using red brick, and she said she had not changed her mind; since the Federal City was a white city, especially Pennsylvania Avenue, she thought this building should not depart from that palette. The Chairman said he agreed with her basic philosophy, but thought that in this case, as the brick section would be residential and close to the commercial area, the red brick section would not be inappropriate. The material samples were then approved with Miss Wolf dissenting.

Exhibit D

E. Department of the Treasury, United States Mint

CFA 15/DEC/88-6, Mary Lasker medal. Designs. Staff member Sue Kohler read from Public law 100-210, authorizing the medal, which stated that Mrs. Lasker was to receive "a gold medal of appropriate design in recognition of her humanitarian contributions in the areas of medical research and education, urban beautification, and the fine arts." She showed plaster models of the obverse, with a portrait of Mrs. Lasker, and the reverse, on which was an interpretation of the Victory of Samothrace, used for the Albert Lasker Medical Research Award, superimposed on a drawing of the Mary Woodard Lasker Center at NIH. She then introduced Kevin Cullinane from the Mint to answer questions. In answer to a question from Miss Wolf, Mr. Cullinane said the design of the obverse, based on a photograph, was the work of James Licaretz of the Mint; the reverse was designed by James Mercanti, also of the

Mint. He added that the Lasker family had been closely involved in the designs and had approved them. Miss Wolf commended the Mint for bringing in plaster models; she and the other members were pleased with the designs and they were approved. Exhibit E

Miss Wolf then asked to bring up two other matters related to the Mint: the design of the Eisenhower commemorative coin, to be issued in 1990, and the Bicentennial of the Congress coins, scheduled for 1989. She said she hoped the other members would agree to request that the Mint hold an invited compensated competition for the design of the Eisenhower coin, since there was ample time to do it; there was no objection to this suggestion. In regard to the Congressional coins, she told Mr. Cullinane that the Commission would like to add to the list of artists' names that had already been sent to the Mint. (These names had been sent in response to a request from the Mint for the names of artists other than those who had previously been invited to enter the Mint's competitions.) The staff agreed to forward these new names to the proper person at the Mint. Exhibit F

F. District of Columbia Government, Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

1. Shipstead-Luce Act

a. S.L. 89-18, 8175 East Beach Drive, N. W. Design for new single family residence. Concept. (The agenda order was changed and this project discussed first.) Mr. Martinez showed plans for the house, pointing out that it would be a large one, and as proposed, might not fit on the irregularly-shaped lot. He said that in order to build the house, the applicant had to request a zoning variance, which would come before the Zoning Board in January; any comments made by the Commission would be taken into consideration at that time. He said the staff had visited the site and had the impression that the proposed size of the house and close proximity to its neighbors would make it appear larger than anything else in the area. He showed photographs of the site, and then noted that the ANC had informed him that there had been some neighborhood opposition to the requested variance. He said both the applicant and the ANC representative were present to comment on the project. The Chairman said that the Commission's normal procedure was to wait until other approvals, such as zoning, had been obtained before making its recommendation; however, he thought informal comments could be made if they would be helpful. Mr. Ed Sloane, ANC commissioner for the area, said he would like to go on record reporting the ANC's opposition to the granting of a variance. He said that after an article had appeared in the Washington Post describing the neighborhood as one that had been newly "discovered," there had been a proliferation of new houses, and the neighbors thought this one was just too large for the area. The Chairman agreed that the wooded areas along the park were very attractive; he noted that the Shipstead boundaries had been

extended to protect them, but he thought it would be inappropriate for the Commission to comment on the design of the house until the zoning question had been answered. The applicant, Mr. Ellsbury, said he had submitted the project as a concept because he wanted to get the members' reaction and hear their concerns; this would better prepare him in the event he got the variance. The Chairman then volunteered that a narrower face to the park and more preservation of trees would be preferable to what was shown; stylistically he thought that something more contemporary and less like a Georgian country house would be more compatible with the site and the houses nearby. Mr. Ellsbury thanked the Chairman for his comments, and a formal opinion was deferred until after the zoning question had been decided. Exhibit G

b. S.L. 89-27, 6830 Oregon Avenue, N. W. Design for new single family residence. Concept. Mr. Carson said the staff had visited the site for this proposed new residence, located directly across the street from Rock Creek Park, and he described it as a heavily wooded garden, formerly part of the adjacent property. He said the applicant had provided the Commission with a detailed graphic analysis of the area, including a site plan and photographs of houses in the area, which were either the gabled cottage type or single story ramblers with mansard roofs; he passed these around to the members. Mr. Carson said the observation of the staff had been that the house was somewhat larger than the site could support, and that the design, in terms of roof heights and configuration, was more complex than others in the neighborhood. He then introduced Hugh Wachter, the developer, and his architect, John Stewart. Mr. Wachter said a full topographic survey had been made, and he pointed out the major trees and shrubs that had been taken into consideration when the house was designed. In answer to a question by the Chairman, Mr. Stewart said the house would be about 4,500 square feet, would not require any zoning variance, and would be set quite far back from Oregon Avenue. He said the materials would be horizontal wood siding and brick. The Chairman said he liked the design, and although he realized it would be higher than some of the houses in the area, he thought that because of the number of tall trees and the way the ground sloped, it might not be noticeably larger. Mr. Stewart said there were houses of comparable size within a two block area. Miss Wolf asked if the ANC had seen the design; she was told that they had not yet received notice of the proposal by the D. C. government and so had not reviewed it. The other members had no objections to the design as a concept, and it was therefore unanimously approved. Exhibit G

c. Appendix I. Approved.

2. Old Georgetown Act

a. O.G. 89-28, 1810-12 Wisconsin Avenue, N. W. Revised concept design for new mixed-use building. (Previous: O.G. 88-108.) Mr. Martinez recalled that this would be the eighth presentation of this mixed-use project, and that a larger version, involving the demolition of the rear portions of two existing buildings, had been approved at the 28 July 1988 meeting. He said the concept design for a smaller version had been reviewed and approved by the Georgetown Board, although the Board had not approved the white or light-colored paint specified by the architect, preferring instead that the brick remain natural. He introduced Ms. Kurylas from the office of the architect, Frank Schlesinger.

Ms. Kurylas said the reason for the revised design was that the developer had received a parking waiver from the District government, which meant that neither a parking garage nor the demolition of parts of the old buildings was necessary. The chairman said he was pleased that the building was now smaller and thought the design was acceptable; he did agree with the Board that the brick should not be painted. Ms. Kurylas said there were quite a few painted brick buildings on Wisconsin Avenue. The Assistant Secretary recalled the Board's comments when they visited the site, noting their strong feeling that a painted finish, particularly bright white, would be out of keeping with the historic district when applied to a large-scale building. He added, however, that there could be further dialogue, and recalled that the Board had asked for the erection of on-site samples.

The discussion then turned to the height, particularly that of three penthouse structures that would be most visible from the residential area on 34th Street. The Assistant Secretary said the ANC still considered the height of the project excessive, because the elevator and stair towers exceeded the height of the adjacent building which had been taken as the measuring point for the height of the new building according to the Commission's directives. He said that with the new design it might not be necessary to have three towers of the height shown on the drawings. He turned to Ms. Kurylas, who said that because of the elimination of the parking garage the elevator tower did not need to be as high; in addition, only one of the two stair towers needed to go above the roof. She said that for the sake of symmetry, however, they had kept them all at the same height. It was the feeling of the Commission that it would be better to lower all three towers to their minimum height, leaving only one projecting above the parapet; this would be a stair tower extending about 9 feet above the roof. The Chairman asked for any community input; Mrs. McDermid summarized the ANC's position regarding the height, and Mrs. Boyd said the Foundation for the Preservation of Historic Georgetown had always opposed the demolition of the small buildings adjacent to the new construction, and the height of the project.

The Chairman then restated the Commission's recommendation: (1) The brick should remain unpainted, in agreement with the Georgetown Board's recommendation; (2) The roof structures should be minimized as much as possible, with the southernmost stair tower being the only one to project noticeably above the roof. Exhibit G

Before leaving the Old Georgetown Act cases, Miss Wolf asked to comment on the relationship between the Commission of Fine Arts and the ANC. She said she was happy to hear the Chairman say that the Commission gave "great weight" to the opinions of the ANC and she also made reference to a letter written by the Secretary, in which she said he repeated the same statement. The Secretary said he did not recall that he had used those words and would have to find the letter. Mrs. Boyd volunteered to provide a copy, which Miss Wolf read. (The letter was written 12 October 1988 to Stephen Raiche, Chief, Historic Preservation Division, D. C. Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs in reference to a new building at 3307 M Street, N. W.) The letter said, in part: "As you have opportunity to review the transcripts, a good deal of community participation will be obvious as will efforts to deal with issues raised by the ANC in our meetings. Though full accommodation of every point of view on a project like this one is not always possible, the record shows they have been given serious consideration." Miss Wolf said she thought "serious consideration" was the same as "great weight;" the Secretary said he would not argue with that but did not know what her point was. She said her point was that in May 1987 he had sent the members a memo saying that the Commission did not give great weight to the ANC's since it was a federal agency. She thought that with the Chairman's statement, the Commission could now give "great weight" to the ANC's opinions and the confusion would be cleared up.

The Secretary asked to clarify his position as stated in the memo. He said that after conversations with the Justice Department, it was determined that, as a federal agency, the Commission did not have to give great weight to the ANC's, as the District agencies are required to; it could give whatever weight it wanted to, and it could also disagree. The Chairman said he did not think there was a problem; the Commission had always listened to and considered all points of view. The one thing that had been made clear was that, as a federal agency operating under the Old Georgetown Act, the Commission was not bound by law to give great weight to the District ANC's.

Mrs. Boyd asked to bring up another question involving procedures under the Old Georgetown Act. The Chairman said there were applicants waiting, and if she would write a letter, her subject matter would be placed on the agenda for the next meeting, when there would be more time to give it a proper hearing. She persisted, however, and again brought up the matter of the statement attributed to the staff that the Commission was going to

relinquish its jurisdiction over Georgetown. The Chairman said he thought that was misleading; what was meant was that Georgetown should be on notice that Congress could easily rescind the Old Georgetown Act and leave the historic district with no federal design review. Mrs. Boyd reiterated that the staff had stated that it would be glad to cede jurisdiction to the D. C. Historic Preservation Review Board if that was what the citizens of Georgetown wanted. The Secretary said that had been his statement. The Chairman said the staff could have its own opinions, but they were not necessarily those of the Commission. He brought the discussion to a close and asked to move on to the final submission.

b. Appendix II. Approved.

G. District of Columbia Government, Department of Public Works, CFA 15/DEC/88-5, Whitehurst Freeway. Alterations. The Assistant Secretary noted that the Old Georgetown Act and the Whitehurst Freeway had come into being at about the same time, in 1950. He said that the freeway, an elevated structure running from Key Bridge to Rock Creek, had for many years been considered ugly but necessary, and he recalled the numerous efforts to get rid of it, by tunneling or otherwise, and the recent decision to keep it, renovate it and make it safer. The renovation, previously approved by the Commission, would include some widening, a new parapet, and the use of the Washington globe instead of the old highway lights, to harmonize with the new lights on Key Bridge. The project would also include the removal of some ramps at both ends of the freeway. The new proposal being submitted was for the refurbishing and painting of the undercarriage; it would include removing the gas lines, conduits, downspouts and signs attached to the steel columns, cladding them in concrete, and attaching light fixtures, using the Washington globe. There would also be concealed lighting up in the undercarriage, to dispel the gloom and insecure feeling now present in the street below. Mr. Myer then introduced Mr. Silas from the District government, Mr. Penton from the architectural firm of Harry Weese & Associates, and John Jessup from the Park Service to discuss the iproposals in more detail and answer questions. The members looked at two models, renderings and photographs while Mr. Penton explained how they had arrived at the design solutions. He said the bracket lights and concrete cladding on the columns, and the use of planters were the result of an attempt to bring a human scale to the freeway. Although he was not prepared to discuss color in detail, he said they were thinking of using two shades- the lighter on the undercarriage- and were considering grey, a brownish rust color, rosy purple, and another shade of red.

The Chairman then expressed his concern about cladding the steel columns. The use of a masonry element in a non-masonry function to hide a structural steel member, and then extending it only part way, he felt was very unfortunate. He thought perhaps

and keeping the structural integrity of the steel; he did not think the structure itself was an eyesore. He also thought that more study should be given to the light fixture, to finding something that was more suited to steel bridge structures, rather than using the Washington globe, which was meant to sit on a fluted vertical standard with a classical base. Mr. Penton said he had used the globe partly for budgetary reasons, knowing that they are readily available and used throughout the District; he thought a custom fixture might be difficult and expensive to maintain. The Chairman thought it was worth studying and noted that a great deal of money would be saved by just cleaning up the structure, painting it and lighting the undercarriage rather than spending money on cladding. He then asked Mr. Jessup if the Park Service had any comments to make. Mr. Jessup said his agency was generally pleased with the rehabilitation plans, but was sorry that the pedestrian bridge from I Street had been deleted. Mr. Penton said this was done not just because of cost but because of construction difficulties involving complicated grade separations. It was also noted that residents of the Foggy Bottom area were adamantly opposed to the pedestrian link to Georgetown because they thought it would bring crime to their neighborhood.

The Chairman concluded the discussion by saying that the Commission applauded the efforts made, approved the decking improvements and the use of the Washington globe at that level, wanted to review the colors proposed for painting the structure, did not like the idea of cladding, and wanted more study of the bracket lights and the kind and amount of light to be placed on the undercarriage, taking into consideration that it could look ghostly, harsh, or glaring. Exhibit H

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

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708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

EXHIBIT A

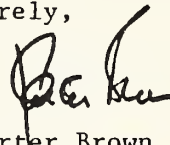
December 22, 1988

Dear Mrs. Pope:

It was a pleasure to meet with you and Mr. Prima at our meeting on December 15 1988 and review the concept designs for the new childcare facility at the Pentagon. With proper landscaping and the right choice of colors and materials, the Commission is happy to give its approval. Let us know when additional information is available on the remaining items, and we will be glad to schedule a review.

Since the facility will be erected and operated as a commercial enterprise, the Commission would like to sound a note of concern lest there be any advertising other than a modest low-key sign simply identifying the building and its management. Any kind of logo or conspicuous lighting and lettering would be out of keeping with the site, especially since it is so close to the mall entrance of the Pentagon. In fact "modest" and "inconspicuous" are the key words underlying everything about the visual aspects of this facility and should serve as your continuing guide about both the design and operation.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mrs. Barbara Pope
Deputy Assistant Secretary for
Family Support, Education and Safety
Department of Defense
Room 3A280, The Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

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708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

EXHIBIT B

December 20, 1988

Dear Mr. Reiss:

The Commission was pleased to meet with you on 15 December 1988 to discuss the proposed exterior lighting modifications to the south front of the National Portrait Gallery. While the members commend the Smithsonian for its efforts to upgrade the lighting of buildings under the jurisdiction of the institution, approval of the current proposal is provisional in deference to the presidential inauguration on 20 January.

All parties concerned wish to avoid the effects of glare as well as color in the orange and blue ranges. To this end, it is hoped that on the evening of 11 January the Commission will have a chance to see the effect of the new lighting. At that time a review could be made of light intensity and color range with the understanding that adjustment or replacement of the light fixtures would be possible if found necessary.

As you know, the staff will be available should any questions arise.

Sincerely,


J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Phillip K. Reiss, Director
Office of Design and Construction
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, D.C. 20560

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

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708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

EXHIBIT C

December 22, 1988

Dear Mr. Chistolini:

The Commission of Fine Arts met with Ms. Judith Friedman and the architects for Building 213 in the Southeast Federal Center on December 15, 1988 and has given basic approval to the concept of renovation and cladding that building. Our approval incorporates cornice elements of the first scheme, as reviewed in October, and recessed top floor windows shown on a revised scheme. The revised scheme had a crisp cornice line and our preference is for the softening effect of the previous standing seam rooftop element. It is a big building in a prominent and visible location. We feel that additional study is justified and expect to continue our discussions at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Carter Brown", written in a cursive style.

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Paul Chistolini
Assistant Regional Administrator
for Real Estate and Development
GSA - National Capital Region
Washington, D.C. 20407

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708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

EXHIBIT D

December 20, 1988

Dear Mr. Brodie:

The Commission was pleased to meet with George Hartman on 15 December 1988 to discuss the sample panel of materials proposed for the new mixed-use building at 6th Street and Indiana Avenue, Northwest. As you know, several members of the Commission stopped by to see the effect of the brick and cast stone on site, and the majority approved your choice.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. M. J. Brodie, Executive Director
Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation
1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 1220N
Washington, D.C. 20004-1703

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

CAROLYN J. DEAVER

ROY M. GOODMAN

FREDERICK E. HART

NEIL H. PORTERFIELD

PASCAL REGAN

DIANE WOLF

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

EXHIBIT E

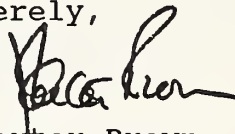
708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

22 December 1988

Dear Mrs. Pope:

The Commission of Fine Arts reviewed designs for the Mary Lasker medal at its meeting on 15 December 1988. I am happy to tell you that they were approved.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

The Honorable Donna Pope
Director
United States Mint
633 3rd Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20220

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708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

EXHIBIT F

202-566-1066

4 January 1989

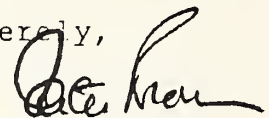
Dear Mrs. Pope:

At its meeting on 15 December 1988, the Commission of Fine Arts discussed several matters pertaining to the Mint with Mr. Kevin Cullinane, present for review of the Mary Lasker medal.

One of the topics of discussion was the issuance of the Eisenhower commemorative coin. It was noted that the legislation has now become law and the coin is to be produced in 1990.

As there is ample time, the Commission would like to suggest that the design for this important commemorative coin be obtained through an invited, compensated competition.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

The Honorable Donna Pope
Director, United States Mint
633 Third Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20220

AGENDA ITEM EXHIBIT

15 December 1988

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
S.L. 89-18	8175 E. Beach Drive, N.W. Dickie S. Carter Residence	New building - conceptual

ACTION: HOLD for CFA Agenda 12 January 1989.

S.L. 89-27	6830 Oregon Avenue, N.W. Birchrock Associates Residence	New building - conceptual
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ACTION: No objection to concept of proposed new residence at this location. Submit working drawings for review prior to permit issuance. Recommend careful protection of existing trees during construction phase and urge some simplification of roof line for greater compatibility with surrounding small scale houses if possible.

O.G. 89-28	1810-1812 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Warren K. Montouri Mixed-use building	New building - conceptual
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ACTION: No objection to concept for new mixed-use building. The Commission recommends reduction of the height of the elevator tower and the northernmost stair tower to the parapet level. Recommend that the building be finished in a natural brick, with color and mid-range value relating to other brick buildings in the neighborhood. Request that sample panel of brick be erected for inspection and approval by the Commission.

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708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

202-566-1066

EXHIBIT H

27 December 1988

Dear Mr. Sandhu:

The Commission appreciated the opportunity to see plans for refurbishing the Whitehurst Freeway at its meeting on 15 December 1988. It has been a persistent eyesore on the Georgetown waterfront for years, and anything we can do to improve its appearance will be most welcome indeed.

Unfortunately the major changes recommended by your architectural consultant, Harry Weese, present problems to the Commission. The masonry cladding around the steel columns looks very much like what it is i.e. stone veneer, and the Washington globe lights, with such strong associations with the monumental streets of Washington, look oddly out of place in the context of the industrial steel structure of the freeway. Our feeling is that the cladding ought to be eliminated above the base, and that a fixture be found for the lighting that carries with it none of the same associations inherent in the Washington globe.

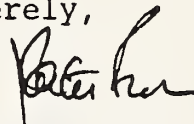
We also discussed at some length the question of color. While there is a certain logic to use something in the red range -- the immediate structures abutting the roadway to the north are all red brick, so that it might blend into the background as seen from the south -- our initial reaction is that a lighter, more neutral color would be more appropriate. Light shades tend to reinforce the idea of weightlessness, looking pale against the sky. I believe a silver paint might help express the metallic nature of the material. One factor that supports our feeling is your intention to light the underside of the freeway to dispel the gloom, which will be a great improvement if it can be done. Any color that is firmly in the red range will by nature absorb a great deal of light, and we feel it would be very difficult to achieve the desired effect with such an approach.

As you know from having been present during the discussions with the consultant, we stressed the subjective nature of color and thus the real need for everyone to get a look at a range of options with test panels available for inspection on the actual site. I believe that in addition to the ideas put forward by the design consultant, we definitely ought to see some samples in the light and neutral color range. While this might seem somewhat overly cautious at the present time, I believe we can all get a much better appreciation of the problem and, as a result what will be the most effective solution.

Finally, I would like to mention the Commission's concern for what appears to be a decision to eliminate some of the pedestrian connections such as the bridge between the waterfront and the area east of Rock Creek Parkway. It was explained that the principal reason is the Foggy Bottom community's concern for crime having freer access from Georgetown to their neighborhood. The Commission finds this line of thinking disturbing, especially when the enhanced circulation would be of such benefit to a much larger segment of this city's population.

We truly hope this decision is not final, and that a dialogue can be reopened with the community on both sides of the issue so that a fairer and more equitable decision can be made.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Harbhajan S. Sandhu
Acting Chief
Design and Engineering Division
Bureau of Transportation
Construction Services
Reeves Center
2000 14th Street, N.W., 5th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20009

MEETING:

17 December 1987

